



RUMÄNISCHE BAUERNJACKEN



This small collection of Rumanian peasant jackets known as "Cojocs" from the Banate and Transylvania does not mean that we are to discourse upon ethnology or fashion. We shall keep within the limits of "Gebrauchsgraphik" and view the collection with the eye of the graphic artist. True, the material and colours of these gay embroideries would gladden the eye of any painter but regrettable as it is we must do without a reproduction in colour this time. It is not the motif as such that makes these lambskin jackets so fascinating for barring the Turkish crescent on the back of one jacket the dominant features are flowers which in manifold variations and with much play of imagination are adapted in the design. Rather is it the ornamental purpose that is so intriguing, for it is here executed in a truly masterly manner and with perfect adaptation to the cut of these gay garments. Such handiwork puts on record a characteristic feature of Rumanian folk-art whose wealth of ideas appears inexhaustible when it is a matter of adapting colour and form to the object in hand whether it be a piece of embroidery, carving or pottery, and can set a lively example to our own graphic work.

Translated by Flora Salmond-Volkman